

Briefing for Police and Crime Commissioner

Topic: Joint Audit Committee

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Purpose of briefing

To describe the purpose and role of the Joint Audit Committee.

Background

The primary function of the Joint Audit Committee is to provide independent reassurance of the key governance activities undertaken by the Office of the Police, Crime and Victims Commissioner (OPCVC) and Durham Constabulary. One of the key objectives is to help the OPCVC and Constabulary maintain the highest level of integrity and reputation.

Current Issues

The Committee agenda provides a flavour of topics that the PCC may get into conversation about. These include all matters financial (setting of budget, medium term financial plan, treasury management, annual statutory accounts), governance (internal audit reports, joint chief finance officer protocol) and reassurance (risk register, scrutiny report findings).

Decisions Needed

The Audit Committee is not a decision making body but the recommendations, that arise from the subject matter they receive reports on, are well considered and identify actions that are needed to address any shortcomings.

Partnership Involvement

This is not a partnership forum and does not have specific partnership involvement.

Police Involvement

Colleagues from the Constabulary will attend and present at the Audit Committee on subject matter in which they are expert and have responsibility for.

People to Meet

The Chair of the Joint Audit Committee is the key person to meet initially. It might be a sensible move to attend a Committee to meet the Members and get a flavour for the content and conduct of the meeting.